

Helms-Burton law and waiving important parts of this legislation. It is time for the White House to wake up and realize that flirting with Castro will not help bring freedom to Cuba's oppressed people.

#### FISCAL YEAR 1999 AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS

(Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise to strongly encourage the President to sign the 1999 agriculture appropriations bill. This bill contains much needed assistance for farmers and ranchers who are facing severe drought, farmers trying to hold together their operations in the face of several years of floods and disease, and farmers seeing their incomes decline significantly due to circumstances beyond their control.

I want to emphasize to my colleagues the assistance provided in this bill is not an implicit acknowledgment that agriculture policy needs to change direction. It is simply a recognition of the great need that we have in rural America.

The calls for additional funds for farmers are not about money, they are about policy. Some believe that they can seize on today's problems to change the course of the 1996 farm bill. My question is, why return to the old, failed farm policies of the past? Let us work through these international trade problems and continue to free agriculture to achieve great success in the 21st century. A good first step would be for the President to sign this bill. Do not play shut down the government with our farmers.

#### THE PRESIDENT IN HIS OWN WORDS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, guess who made the following quotes. In 1974: "If a President of the United States ever lied to the American people, he should resign."

Again in 1974: "I think it's plain that the President should resign and spare the country the agony of this impeachment and removal proceeding. I think the country would be spared a lot of agony and the government could worry about inflation and a lot of other problems if he'd resign."

Again in 1974: "I think the definition of impeachment should include any criminal act plus willful failure of the President to fulfill his duty to uphold and execute the laws of the United States. And another factor that I think constitutes an impeachable offense would be willful, reckless behavior in office."

In 1992: "I think trust and trustworthiness is an issue in this cam-

paign, and I think I've demonstrated it in my life."

Again in 1992: "I'm concerned by any action which sends a signal that if you work for the government, you're above the law, or not telling the truth to Congress, under oath, is somehow less serious than not telling the truth to some other body, under oath."

#### THE RULE OF LAW

(Mr. BARR of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on November 5, 1997, I introduced a resolution calling for an inquiry into the impeachment of President Clinton. Yesterday the House Judiciary Committee, 11 months to the day thereafter, voted to begin that inquiry, having before it at least 15 possible impeachable offenses. By the end of this week, the full House will have the opportunity to begin to find the truth by supporting this resolution.

If we accept that this inquiry is merely about sex and politics, we have already failed in our constitutional responsibility. This is about the rule of law. It is about accountability. It is about American citizens being free from fear that a high government official can tap them on the shoulder, escort them into a room, force them to succumb to the official's wishes and then obstruct that citizen's right to seek justice in our courts.

We must stand firm for the law, the Constitution, and the American people by supporting the inquiry of impeachment.

#### THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM TODAY

(Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues to ask themselves a question. That question is, how long will it be before rogue nations are able to reach American soil with ballistic missiles? In 1995, some said 15 years. President Clinton used this information to justify his veto of the 1996 defense authorization bill which called for the deployment of a national missile defense system by the year 2003. Mr. Speaker, as our esteemed chairman of the House Committee on National Security, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE), said, the missile threat is not 15 years away, it is here now.

Recently we found out that North Korea fired its Taepo Dong 1 missile over the Sea of Japan. This missile has a maximum range of 1,250 miles. If anyone thinks that North Korea and other nations do not have the technological ability to hit American soil, we could all be dead wrong.

The U.S. must be able to defend itself from ballistic missile attacks. Efforts

not unlike those to make the U.S. first to the moon are needed to protect the American way of life. The President must agree to put a ballistic missile defense system in place today because the American citizens need to be secure that they are safe.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, there is an expression around this town that "people are entitled to their own opinions, but they are not entitled to their own facts." We have heard a lot in the last couple of weeks about this Congress and how little it has accomplished, but let us look at the facts.

For the first time since I was in high school, we have a balanced budget. We have more than that. We have a surplus this year. And for the first time since Tiger Woods was 5 years old, American families are actually going to get some tax relief. Let us talk about some of those tax cuts and what they mean to American families.

We are allowing for a \$500-per-child tax credit. We are making it easier for families to send their kids to school and to college, and we are also making it easier for them to save and invest for their future through capital gains tax relief and estate tax relief.

IRS reform. We are now saying that the IRS has to prove that you are guilty rather than the other way around.

In the area of agriculture, we have made significant progress in terms of helping our farmers get through these tough times.

In health care, we have made it much more portable so if you lose your job or change jobs, you can take your health insurance with you.

In the area of education, this Congress is saying that 90 percent of the funds ought to go to the classroom rather than be consumed by the bureaucracy.

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On all the areas people are entitled to their own opinions, but they are not entitled to their own facts.

#### WHAT A DIFFERENCE IT MAKES HAVING REPUBLICANS IN CHARGE OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, after 2 years of being stricken and terrified with a Democrat House of Representatives, a Democrat Senate and a Democrat White House, the American people in 1994 changed horses. We put Republicans in charge of the House and the Senate, and what a difference it made